COMMUNITY

Page 6 – Meet Christine Burkette, now leading the charge to get more Detroiters online

EL CENTRAL HISPANIC NEWS

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COMMUNITY

Pages 7 – Youth Golf Clinic is Coming to Clark Park

Alianza FC arranca con su segunda temporada de fútbol destacando el talento local

Alianza FC, un nuevo club de fútbol en Southwest Detroit, tiene como objetivo mostrar el gran talento futbolístico de la comunidad local a nivel nacional. El equipo jugará en la United Premier Soccer League, que incluye a casi 400 equipos en todo el país. Los juegos en casa se llevarán a cabo en el Corner Ballpark, lugar donde se ubicaba el antiguo Estadio de los Tigres de Detroit, entre la Av. Michigan y la calle Trumbull, el primer partido está programado para el viernes 21 de abril a las 8 pm y los boletos se pueden comprar en www.alianzafc.com.

Los entrenadores Roberto Lucas, Eduardo Villagómez y Marco Martín, junto con destacados jugadores locales como Oscar 'Cabezón' Huerta, Christhian Bahena Chávez, Faiber Adrián Figueroa-Méndez y Vicente Jaramillo, lideraran el equipo esta temporada.

El club también ha hecho un gran esfuerzo reclutando nuevos talentos de nivel profesional como Oscar Saavedra (exjugador del Club León de México), Nico Martínez (quien jugaba en el Olimpia de Paraguay y Crucero del Norte de Argentina) y una leyenda local nacida en Brasil Frederico Martins, son algunos ejemplos.

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Alianza FC Kicks Off Its Second Season Highlighting Local Talent

Alianza FC, a new soccer club in Southwest Detroit, aims to showcase the rich talent of the local soccer community on the national soccer stage. The team will play in the United Premier Soccer League, which includes nearly 400 teams nationwide. Home games will be held at the Corner Ballpark, site of old Tiger Stadium at Michigan and Trumbull in Detroit, with the first game scheduled for Friday, April 21 at 8 pm. Tickets can be purchased at www.alianzafc.com.

Coaches Roberto Lucas, Eduardo Villagomez, and Marco Martin, along with local standout players such as Oscar 'Cabezon' Huerta, Christhian Bahena Chavez, Faiber Adrian Figueroa-Mendez, and Vicente Jaramillo, will be leading the team this season.

Additionally, Alianza FC has also recruited new professional-level talent, including Oscar Saavedra (formerly of Club Leon de Mexico), Nico Martinez (previously with Olimpia de Paraguay and Cerro Norte de Argentina), and local legend and Brazilian born Frederico Martins.

"I'm excited to play for my neighborhood club," said defender Vicente Jaramillo. I've had the chance to play high level soccer across the region, and there is nothing that compares to the talent and passion and the players in Southwest Detroit. We're really looking forward to competing and putting on a good show for the fans."

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Una entrevista con John Quiñones de la cadena de televisión ABC

Por Christiana Malacara

Como parte de la Extensión Saginaw de LLEAD Michigan (Líderes Latinos para el Desarrollo y la Defensa Legal), he tenido la oportunidad única, de ser la entrevistadora de un pionero de gran magnitud. La entrevista se llevó a cabo en la Universidad Delta College en Saginaw, donde John Quiñones recientemente formó parte de los oradores magistrales de Delta College.

Sentí que mi vida cambió al entrevistar a este célebre periodista Juan Quiñones, ganador del premio Emmy y presentador del programa Primetime de ABC: "¿Qué harías?". Francamente, sentí que le estaba pidiendo consejo a un sabio tío, mientras él compartía su historia. Sentirme tan cómoda era irreal, pero esa es la conexión que John Quiñones brinda a todos los que conoce.

El proceso comenzó hace semanas cuando Angelo Kapp, vicepresidente de la Extensión LLEAD de Saginaw Michigan, se puso en contacto con el agente de John Quiñones para concertar una reunión previa a la entrevista. Para nuestra sorpresa, Angelo recibió un correo electrónico del propio John que decía: "Reunámonos para comer algo..." En cuestión de 12 horas,

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An Interview with ABC's John Quiñones

John Quiñones recently visited Saginaw and meet with local Latino leaders. (L-R) Dan Salas, Angelo Kapp, Christiana Malacara, John Quiñones (center), Ava Barajas, Katharina Barajas, Al Flores

By Christiana Malacara

As part of the Saginaw Chapter of LLEAD Michigan (Latino Leaders for the Enhancement of Advocacy and Development), I was given this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to be the interviewer to a trailblazer of this magnitude. The interview was held at Delta College in Saginaw, where John Quinones recently spoke as part of the Delta College President Speakers Series.

The tables felt turned as I interviewed the celebrated journalist, Emmy award winner, and host of ABC's Primetime: "What Would You Do?" John Quinones. Frankly, I felt like I was simply asking a wise tio (uncle) for advice as he shared his story. Feeling that comfortable was unreal, but that is the connection that John Quinones gives to everyone he meets.

The process started weeks ago as Angelo Kapp, Saginaw Michigan LLEAD Chapter Vice President, contacted the agent of John Quinones to arrange a pre-interview meet and greet. To our surprise, Angelo received an email from John himself saying, "Let's meet for a bite to eat…" In a matter of 12 hours following that exchange, Angelo and I were able to gather some leaders in the community to Gilly's Bistro in Bay City for a private dinner with John.

Dinner at Gilly's Bistro was a rare event for many of us. We could openly speak to someone who has come from an environment that not many people can relate to. John was more interested in hearing from us! As he made his way around the room, he shook hands, gave hugs, and said, "Hello, tell me about you." or "Hi, nice to meet you. Who are you?" Giving each person an opportunity to share their story.

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Alianza FC

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Alianza FC will play in the Midwest East division of the UPSL this Spring 2023 season. Established in 2011, the United Premier Soccer League (UPSL) has grown to become the largest and most competitive pro-development league in North America, with nearly 400 clubs competing nationwide. The Premier Division for Spring 2023 will see 255 clubs vying for 32 spots in the National Playoff Bracket to become the National Champion. Despite being a new club, Alianza FC welcomes the challenge of showcasing our local talent on the national stage.

Head coach Roberto Lucas seems ready to go. "I really like our team this year. We have a good mix of younger, talented guys with some more veteran, clinical players. We've been training since January for the season, and we're looking to make a run at the playoffs this year."

Alianza FC, in only its second year, aspires to be more than just a football club; they aim to foster a football community that instills pride in the local talent and soccer history of Southwest Detroit. The club is dedicated to making a positive impact in the community through various programs and events aimed at improving facilities, developing talent, and providing entertainment.

In 2022, Alianza FC sponsored free youth soccer clinics, and they hosted the Mexico vs. Honduras Legends game held at their home field. They also provided two local players with free admission to the Michigan State University college ID soccer camp, which has now put them on the radar of local college coaches, perhaps one day helping them earn a scholarship.

"We definitely want to be more than just a soccer team," said Carlos Huerta, one of seven team owners of the club. "We want to develop young players and give them the chance to reach higher levels of soccer. We plan to build on our soccer clinics from last year and get more kids involved this summer. We also want to help with better soccer fields. We want to give the community something to be proud of."

Fans can come out and support Alianza FC at The Corner Ballpark. Tickets and schedules can be found online at www.alianzafc.com, as well as at Taqueria El Nacimiento located at 7400 W. Vernor Hwy in Southwest Detroit or at the gate on game days. With tickets priced at only $8 for adults and free admission for kids under 8, Alianza FC promises a great night of quality soccer, food/drinks, and a family-friendly environment.

Follow Alianza FC on social media @LaAlianzaFC and join the conversation with hashtags #JuntosPodemos and #SomosLaAlianza. This fun, family event allows people a chance to come together to support our very own Alianza FC and celebrate the talent and spirit of Southwest Detroit!

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"Estoy emocionado de jugar en el club de mi barrio", dijo el defensor Vicente Jaramillo. He tenido la oportunidad de jugar fútbol de alto nivel en toda la región, y no hay nada que se compare con el talento, la pasión y los jugadores de Southwest Detroit. Tenemos muchas ganas de competir y darles un buen partido a los aficionados".

Alianza FC jugará en la división Midwest East de la UPSL esta temporada de primavera 2023, que se estableció en 2011, la United Premier Soccer League (UPSL) ha crecido hasta convertirse en la liga más grande y más competitiva de desarrollo profesional de Norte América, con casi 400 clubes en todo el país. La Premier Division tendrá 255 clubes compitiendo por 32 lugares en el National Playoff Bracket para convertirse en el Campeón Nacional. A pesar de ser un club nuevo, Alianza FC está listo para el desafío y listo para mostrar todo el talento en este gran escenario.

El entrenador Roberto Lucas está listo para este desafío. "Me gusta mucho nuestro equipo de este año. Tenemos una buena combinación de muchachos jóvenes con futuro y algunos jugadores más avanzados con experiencia y talento. Hemos estado entrenando desde enero para la temporada, y estamos buscando entrar en los playoffs este año".

Alianza FC, en apenas su segundo año, aspira a ser más que un club de fútbol; su objetivo es fomentar una comunidad futbolística que inculque el orgullo por el talento local y la historia futbolística de Southwest Detroit. El club quiere generar un impacto positivo en la comunidad a través de varios programas y eventos destinados a mejorar las instalaciones, desarrollar talentos y brindar entretenimiento a la comunidad.

En 2022, Alianza FC patrocinó clínicas gratuitas de fútbol juvenil y fueron anfitriones del juego de Leyendas México vs. Honduras, que se llevó a cabo en su cancha local. También se le proporcionó la entrada gratuita al campamento de fútbol de la Universidad Michigan State, a dos jugadores locales, que ahora los ha puesto en el radar de entrenadores universitarios, que quizás algún día les ayuden a obtener una beca.

"Definitivamente queremos ser más que un simple equipo de fútbol", dijo Carlos Huerta, uno de los siete dueños de un equipo del club. "Queremos desarrollar jugadores jóvenes y darles la oportunidad de alcanzar altos niveles en el fútbol. Planeamos aprovechar nuestras clínicas de fútbol del año pasado e involucrar a más niños este verano. También queremos ayudar con mejores canchas de fútbol. Queremos darle a la comunidad algo de lo que estar orgulloso".

Los fanáticos pueden salir y apoyar a Alianza FC en The Corner Ballpark en Michigan y Trumbull. Los boletos y los horarios se pueden encontrar en línea en www.alianzafc.com, así como en la Taquería El Nacimiento situada en 7400 W. Vernor Hwy en Southwest Detroit o en la entrada, el día del juego. El valor de la entrada es de tan solo $8 para adultos y gratuita para niños menores de 8 años, Alianza FC promete una gran noche de fútbol de calidad, comida/bebidas y un ambiente familiar.

Sigue a Alianza FC en las redes sociales @LaAlianzaFC y únete a la conversación con los hashtags #JuntosPodemos y #SomosLaAlianza. ¡Este divertido evento familiar permite que las personas se reúnan para apoyar a nuestra Alianza FC y celebrar el talento y el espíritu del Southwest Detroit!

ALIANZA FC
DETROIT, MI
2021
TM

ABC's John Quiñones

Con't from pg. 1

I was asked numerous times if I felt nervous leading up to the interview, and my answer was always the same: "No, he is just like you and me- he just has a TV show." I approached the interview simply as the voice of the community.

LLEAD Saginaw created a Google survey giving the community the opportunity to ask John Quinones questions. From the submissions we collected, we formed the questions that would guide me through the interview. It was incredible to see the amount of feedback we received and how diverse the questions were. Yet most had a similar thread asking "how?"

Ava Barajas, a high school dual enrolment student, joined me in the interview. Ava is a journalism student. Sitting down with John at the interview table, we had our questions ready, and before we had the camera rolling, he said, "Wow, this is just great. Just look at how wonderful this all is- this is the future."

When I asked, "What challenges did you face as a Latino student in college?" He responded almost instantly, saying, "I was going to drop out! My family could not afford for me to go to school. In my sophomore year, the big challenge was that I was going to drop out. My family needed me." He added that sticking with it for the bigger picture and surrounding himself with like-minded students and friends helped him. "Have friends who have the same dreams, wishes, and aspirations." He added his parents were always supportive of him continuing his education. His mother, who cleaned homes for a living, knew the power of education and told him never to give up.

John spoke of his journey from growing up in a migrant family to the public figure he is today. I asked, "What was the initial spark in him that pushed him in the direction to become a journalist?" John sat back, and with confidence and motivation in his voice, he said, "I wanted to shine a light on things that were wrong."

John said when he grew up picking tomatoes in Ohio and Cherries in Michigan, his family and the families they traveled with faced discrimination. They were looked down on, and people made presumptions based on how he looked and spoke. John added, "I wanted to change the world! When you look at a reporter, you look at a reformer, someone who wants to make the world a better place."

The experience was like no other, and the amount of insight John shared with everyone he spoke with was monumental. What he has contributed to the world is more than just showing us how to step into an unjust or unfair situation, like in his show "What Would You Do?" John has opened the door to a world of possibilities for not just the Latino community but everyone who has ever felt like they are less, defeated, labeled, or just not enough. John left us with this quote, and I will always refer back to it: "Remind yourself that you are worthy…We have a beautiful legacy and history, and we can bring so much to the table."

Christiana Guerrero- Malacara, Saginaw Michigan native and Western Michigan University Graduate. News reporter for WSGW, marketing director and journalist for several magazines across Michigan.

John Quiñones de la cadena de televisión ABC

Con't de pg. 1

Angelo y yo pudimos reunir a algunos líderes de la comunidad en Gilly's Bistro en la ciudad de Bay, para tener una cena privada con John.

La cena en Gilly's Bistro fue un evento extraño para muchos de nosotros. Podríamos hablar abiertamente con alguien que proviene de un entorno, con el que no muchas personas pueden relacionarse. ¡John estaba más interesado en saber de nosotros! Mientras recorría la habitación, nos dio la mano, nos abrazó y dijo: "Hola, háblame de ti". o "Hola, encantado de conocerte. ¿Quién eres?" Le dio a cada persona la oportunidad de compartir su historia.

Me preguntaron muchas veces si me sentía nerviosa antes de la entrevista, y mi respuesta siempre fue la misma: "No, él es como tú y como yo, solo tiene un programa de televisión". Abordé la entrevista simplemente como la voz de la comunidad.

LLEAD Saginaw hizo una encuesta de Google, que brindaba a la comunidad la oportunidad de hacerle preguntas a John Quiñones. Con las respuestas que obtuvimos, formamos las preguntas que me guiarían a lo largo de la entrevista. Fue increíble ver la cantidad de comentarios que recibimos y la diversidad de las preguntas; sin embargo, la mayoría tenía algo similar usando la pregunta "¿cómo?"

Ava Barajas, una estudiante del programa de inscripción dual, me acompañó a la entrevista. Ava es estudiante de periodismo. Sentándonos con John en la mesa de entrevistas, teníamos nuestras preguntas listas, y antes de que tuviéramos la cámara grabando, dijo: "Guau, esto es genial. Solo mira lo maravilloso que es todo esto: este es el futuro".

Cuando le pregunté: "¿Qué desafíos enfrentó como estudiante latino en la universidad?" Respondió casi al instante, diciendo: "¡Iba a abandonarla! Mi familia no podía permitirse que yo fuera a la universidad. En mi segundo año, el gran desafío fue que iba a salirme. Mi familia me necesitaba". Agregó que mantenerse viendo el panorama global y rodearse de otros alumnos y amigos con ideas afines lo ayudó a seguir adelante. "Ten amigos que tengan los mismos sueños, deseos y aspiraciones". Agregó que sus padres siempre lo apoyaron a continuar con su educación. Su madre, que se ganaba la vida limpiando casas, conocía el poder de la educación y le dijo que nunca se rindiera.

John habló de su trayectoria, en sus inicios creció en una familia inmigrante hasta convertirse en la figura pública que es al día de hoy. Le pregunté: "¿Cuál fue la chispa inicial que lo empujó a convertirse en periodista?" John se recostó, y con confianza y motivación en su voz, dijo: "Quería darle luz a las cosas que estaban mal".

John comentó que cuando creció, recogiendo tomates en Ohio y cerezas en Michigan, su familia y las familias con las que viajaban, sufrieron de discriminación, fueron menospreciadas, y la gente tenía prejuicios basados en cómo se veía y hablaba. John agregó: "¡Quería cambiar el mundo! Cuando miras a un reportero, miras a un reformador, alguien que quiere hacer del mundo un lugar mejor".

La experiencia fue como ninguna otra, y la cantidad de conocimiento, que John compartió con todas las personas con las que habló fue monumental. Lo que ha aportado al mundo, es más que simplemente mostrarnos cómo entrar en una situación injusta, como en su programa "¿Qué harías?" John nos ha abierto la puerta a un mundo de posibilidades no solo para la comunidad latina, sino para todos los que alguna vez se han sentido menospreciados, derrotados, etiquetados o simplemente que no son suficiente. John nos dejó esta cita, y siempre me referiré a ella: "Recuerden que son dignos... Que tienen un hermoso legado e historia y pueden aportar muchísimo".

Traducción por Carmen Luna

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Diles que lo Viste en *EL CENTRAL*

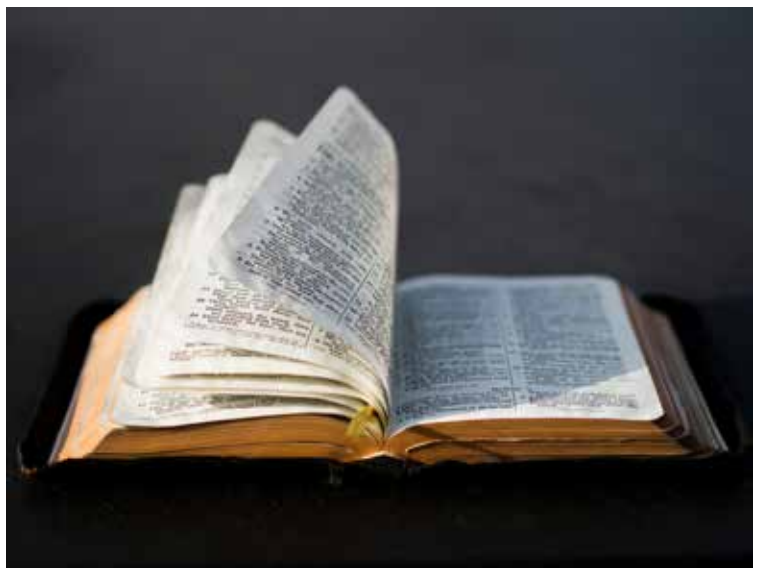
Tell them you saw it in *EL CENTRAL*

SPECIAL, WORLD'S CULTURES

Jesus, history and tradition

Jesus, history and tradition

Sometimes it can be thought that humanity is and is written either through journalism, or through the research of historians who gather data; It is among those data that historians gather where literature and oral tradition play an essential role. Some people agree that in order to unite and unite peoples it is necessary to weave together stories



that give them meaning, so we see how religions build on these stories.

It is perceived by nihilism that nothing makes sense unless one gives it meaning, and with it, value. We can see it within Catholicism, what sense would the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross have had if it had not been valued? What is a fast without the desire to make it sacred with dedication to God? Some people currently perform them as eating habits, but this does not mean that these acts acquire sacred or religious value, unless they are intentional, as when Jesus left for the desert those forty days.

If we imagine a bit of humanity about two thousand years ago, we can understand the importance of the life of a man who walked through Jerusalem, Nazareth, Bethlehem, among other places that we currently call the Middle East; a man who was followed by other people because of the power of the power of his word, his teachings, his generosity and his miracles. Jesus was not like any other man of his time, so he was not, which can be found in texts written by different peoples located in that area of the world that repeated through the tradition of oral history not only being told by the Jews and the apostles of Jesus, but also by other people, giving it structure between what some said to contrast what others said, thus building the history we know today.

It may seem contradictory, but it is essential to understand that two thousand years ago mass writing systems did not exist, only copyists: people who dedicated themselves to copying one or several books to spread it, which is why neither reading nor writing were popularized enough. However, the teachings of Jesus were written in the Holy Bible in the gospels of the New Testament. The story of Jesus was so strong that it became part of the oral tradition, being told for centuries, not only by those who were the first Catholics and believers in Christ, but also by other peoples who, despite not sharing the faith, were witnesses. It is known of his miracles and the importance that he had for those who shared his life in life.

Now, more than two thousand years after the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, it continues to matter and his life continues to be shared not only through the written word, but also through oral tradition among families, priests, parents, and others. orators, his story continues to be told day by day, repeating his teachings in order to try to teach good among human beings.

Jesus gave meaning to his life, to his miracles and also to his crucified death through the resurrection with those last words: "Forgive them, they do not know what they are doing". But not only that, Jesus gave a new direction to the history of humanity.

Diles que lo viste en *EL CENTRAL*

Tell them you saw it in *EL CENTRAL*

ESPECIAL CULTURAS DEL MUNDO

Jesús, historia y tradición

Jesús, la historia y la tradición oral

En ocasiones puede pensarse que la humanidad está y es escrita ya sea a través del periodismo, o bien, de la investigación de historiadores que conjuntan datos; es entre esos datos que conjuntan los historiadores donde la literatura y la tradición oral juegan un rol esencial. Algunas personas coinciden en que para

cohesionar y unir a los pueblos es necesario entretejer historias que le den sentido, así vemos cómo las religiones edifican sobre estas historias.

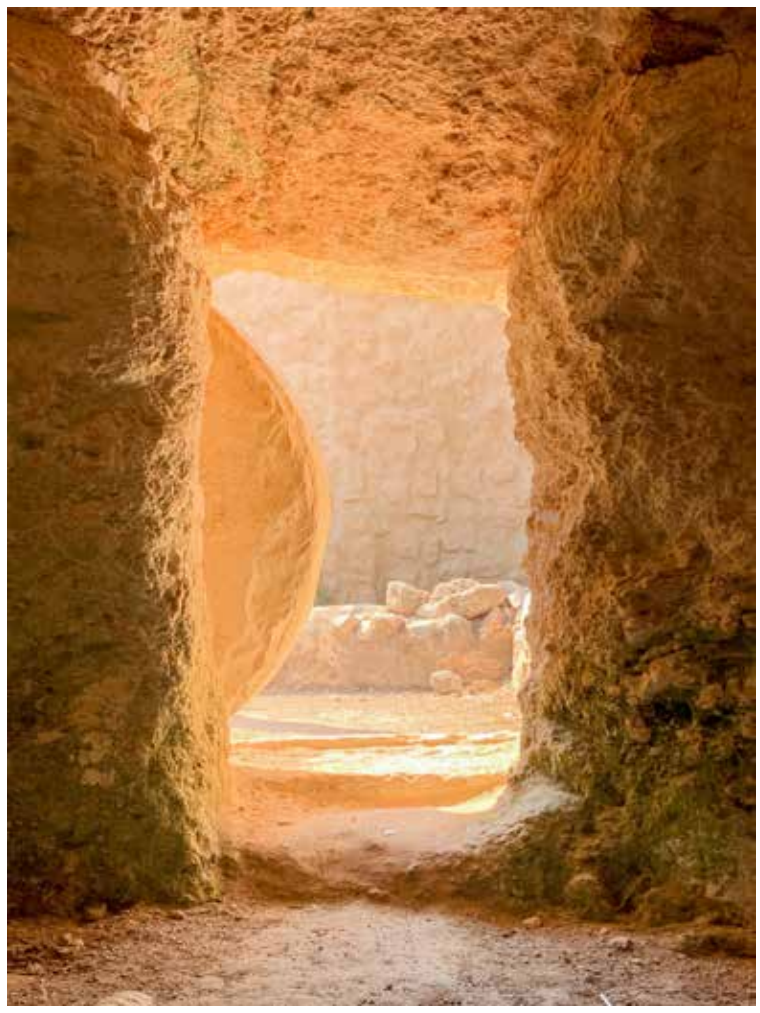
Es percibido por el nihilismo que nada tiene sentido a menos de que uno le dé significado, y con ello, valor. Lo podemos ver dentro del catolicismo, ¿qué sentido habría tenido el sacrificio de Jesús en la cruz si no hubiera sido valorado? ¿Qué es un ayuno sin el deseo de hacerlo sagrado con la dedicación a Dios? Algunas personas actualmente los

realizan como hábitos alimenticios, pero no por ello adquieren estos actos valor sagrado o religioso, a menos de que sean intencionados, como cuando Jesús partió al desierto aquellos cuarenta días.

Si nos imaginamos un poco a la humanidad de hace unos dos mil años, podemos entender la trascendencia que tuvo la vida de un hombre que anduvo por Jerusalén, Nazaret, Belén, entre otros lugares que actualmente denominamos el medio oriente; un hombre quien fue seguido por otras personas debido al poder de su palabra, sus enseñanzas, su generosidad y sus milagros. Jesús no fue como cualquier otro

hombre de su época, tan no lo fue, que se puede encontrar en textos escritos por diferentes pueblos ubicados en aquella zona del mundo que repitieron a través de la tradición de la historia oral no sólo siendo contada por los judíos y los apóstoles de Jesús, sino también por otras personas, dándole estructura entre lo que unos decían para contrastar lo que otros decían, construyendo así la historia que conocemos hoy.

Puede parecer contradictorio, pero es fundamental comprender que hace dos mil años los sistemas de escritura masiva no existían, sino los copistas: personas que se dedicaban a copiar uno o varios libros para



difundirlo, razón por la que ni la lectura, ni la escritura eran suficientemente popularizadas. No obstante, las enseñanzas de Jesús quedaron escrita en la Sagrada Biblia en los evangelios del Nuevo Testamento. La historia de Jesús fue tan fuerte que se volvió parte de la tradición oral contándose por siglos, no sólo por quienes fueron los primeros católicos y creyentes en cristo, sino también por otros pueblos que, pese a no compartir la fe, fueron testigos. Se sabe de sus milagros y la trascendencia que tuvo para quienes compartieron en vida su vida.

Ahora, a más de dos mil años de la muerte y resurrección de Jesucristo, sigue dándole importancia y su vida sigue compartiéndose no sólo a través de la palabra escrita, sino también a través de la tradición oral entre familias, los sacerdotes, padres y otros oradores.

Jesús le dio significado a su vida y también a su muerte a través de la resurrección con aquellas últimas palabras: "Perdónalos, no saben lo que hacen".

Espera nuestro Especial Semanal

CULTURAS LATINOAMERICANAS,

by Mariana Ayón RV

Meet Christine Burkette, now leading the charge to get more Detroiters online

After only a few weeks on the job, Detroit's new digital equity director is making big plans to close the digital divide

Reprinted from Outlier Media and written by Malak Silmi

It's been almost a year since Detroit announced its ambitious plan to get faster internet into the city by building its own high-speed internet infrastructure in Hope Village, but little to no progress has been made, yet. The project hasn't been shelved, though — and the city's new digital equity director has it high on her priority list, among other initiatives to close the digital divide.

Mayor Mike Duggan appointed Christine Burkette to lead the city's digital inclusion and equity efforts last month after a months-long national search to find a replacement for Joshua Edmonds, Detroit's first digital inclusion director.

Burkette, a native Detroiter, told Outlier Media that she's hopeful the city will identify a contractor to install fiber optic lines for the Hope Village project in the next few months and soon be able to break ground. The federally-funded pilot program — spurred by the neighborhood's 45-day internet outage during the pandemic — will let the city create its own infrastructure for internet service providers (ISPs) to use, ideally increasing service reliability and driving down costs. The project stalled last summer after no vendors bid for the construction work.

The number of Detroit households without internet at home has come down in the last few years but still hovers at nearly 12%, according to 2021 American Community Survey estimates from the U.S. Census Bureau. One in four households didn't have internet three years prior. Nationally, about 7% of households have no internet access.

Burkette said she's been working up to 12 hours most days since she started the job. Her desk is littered with sticky notes filled with the different tasks, projects and issues she's beginning to tackle to close the digital divide.

"It takes a lot of work to support over 600,000 residents, so trust me when I say there's barely enough time to eat right now," she told Outlier.

Burkette is part of a small team of three working in the Digital Inclusion and Equity office. She is the CEO and founder of Promising Integrations Consulting Firm Inc. and worked as the chief information officer for the Detroit Public Schools Community District from 2017 to 2018. Burkette is taking a six-month sabbatical from her firm to focus on her new role.

One of her early projects is building a data dashboard to identify internet needs by neighborhood and by district, and it is set to launch in two weeks. The dashboard will include demographics of some people who may have greater internet connectivity needs like the elderly, veterans and people with disabilities.

Duggan said in a press release that having Burkette as a leader will help Detroit continue on its "path to become one of the most connected cities in America."

Chipping away at the digital divide, from subsidies to hotspots

A national investigation by The Markup last fall revealed that internet companies provide slower service to poorer cities, including Detroit, for the same price as customers in other cities get for faster internet. Burkette said her office is hoping to engage in some conversations with ISPs in the next few months to increase access to high-speed internet.

"In the meantime, we're also offering a lot of subsidies so that (residents) can afford the high-speed internet if they have any type of issues with income," she said.

While more Detroiters have gotten some access to the internet in recent years, there are still significant gaps — Burkette said the city's most recent data, captured from several national sources, shows about 43% of Detroit households lack access to high-speed internet, and 32% of households only have one smartphone or no device at all.

Detroiters can access current assistance including monthly internet service discounts for lower-income households through a federally-funded program that has enrolled more than half of eligible households in the city in less than two years — one of the highest enrollment rates nationwide. Residents can also use technology centers across the city that help with technology and offer free Wi-Fi through the Connect 313 initiative.

Burkette is considering additional connectivity programs like more subsidized services, promoting small businesses that offer free internet and distributing hot spots and Wi-Fi extenders directly to Detroiters to "see how that helps each of our individual homeowners in getting that Wi-Fi connectivity that they need."

Burkette has experience identifying individual connectivity challenges — like when it turned out that some Detroit teachers, during her time at the school district, were having internet issues when they closed their classroom doors because the thick cinder-block walls already weakened Wi-Fi signals. Hot spots were then installed in the affected schools, and teachers have since reported more stable connectivity,

Christine Burkette is the Detroit's new digital equity director. Photo credit: Courtesy of the City of Detroit

Burkette said.

Burkette faces a significant challenge ahead if she's to succeed at making Detroit "one of the most connected cities." As she sees it, pressing ISPs for better service is only one piece of a strategy that attacks the problem from many angles.

"One solution that works for one area is not going to work for every area. It's different issues," Burkette said. "A lot of times, the bandwidth issue is not really the provider. It may be the whole structure."

Introducing Jack Akinlosotu

New Director of Detroit's Office of Sustainability Appointed

On Monday, March 27, Mayor Mike Duggan announced the appointment of Jack Akinlosotu as the city's new Director of the Office of Sustainability. Akinlosotu brings 10 years of experience in providing policy, business, and program developments across U.S. cities on climate action planning in the public and private sectors.

In 2017, Mayor Duggan created the City's first Office of Sustainability, with the support of Bloomberg Associates, to coordinate and lead the city's sustainability initiatives and create healthy, green, vibrant, accessible neighborhoods where all Detroiters can contribute and benefit.

As early as 2014, however, the city of Detroit began its work on sustainability initiatives, when it became the first major city in America to convert its entire street lighting system to more energy efficient LED lights. Since then, the city also launched the Renew Detroit Program to replace roofs for low-income seniors to conserve energy, as well as a basement backup protection program to make homes in flood-prone areas more resilient against basement backups. The city recently converted its entire municipal parking department fleet of 48 vehicles to all-electric and has deployed four electric buses as part of the bus fleet conversion. Work also is progressing on the first three miles of the Joe Louis Greenway, 26-mile recreational loop repurposing miles of vacant railroad right-of-way into a pathway that will connect neighborhoods across the city to its nationally recognized riverfront.

Before coming to Detroit, Akinlosotu has worked on the development of multifaceted sustainability policy and programming in Washington DC, New York City, San Francisco, and Seattle. Since 2021, he served as the senior product manager at Oracle Energy & Water, where he led partnership outreach and software development of the limited income solution that is meant to help people connect with programs to help lower their utility bills. Prior to that, he worked as the energy program specialist at the D.C. Department of Energy & Environment (DOEE) to coordinate multiple renewable energy projects, including community accessibility to solar power, electric vehicles, and green financing.

"Detroiters already have been experiencing the very real impacts of climate change, such as rising water levels and more extreme weather," said Mayor Duggan. "We are going to take sustainability into consideration with everything we do as a city, whether it's our buildings, our vehicle fleet or how we are using our publicly owned land, and we're fortunate to have Jack to lead our effort."

In his new role, Akinlosotu will work closely with city departments to lead the implementation of the city's climate strategy. The strategy seeks to strategically combat the effects of climate change, including clean energy, building decarbonization and energy efficiency, fleet electrification, and resilience.

Akinlosotu plans to focus on air quality to address the high asthma rates in the Detroit area, which shows a 74% higher prevalence of current asthma among children compared to children in Michigan according to a 2021 report by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services. In addition, Akinlosotu aims to mitigate the city's higher energy burden of low-income households, which is 3.7 times higher than non-low-income households.

Raquel Garcia, executive director of Southwest Detroit Environmental Vision is looking forward to working with the new director of the City's Office of Sustainability. "There are so many critical air and water quality projects that directly impact residents' health and affect their quality of life, she said. "We are impressed with Akinlosotu's work in New York. Assisting businesses with the reduction of energy use, reduction of emissions is not only saves businesses money but improves air quality. We are excited to gain his insight on the decarbonization plan at the Port of Detroit. SDEV and our environmental justice colleagues are eager to engage with the city on many projects."

Moving forward, the city will focus on the software development of limited income solution programs that will help residents be more energy efficiency and lower their utility bills.

"There is a great deal of opportunity in Detroit to be more creative in developing lasting sustainability," said Akinlosotu. "The sustainability programs we need will be a transformative leap for Detroit, including the deployment of renewable energy options that make sure people that have limited incomes have equitable access and opportunity. We are here to make sure no one is left out."

City partnering with Bloomberg Associates

The city of Detroit is partnered with Bloomberg Associates, the philanthropic consulting arm of Bloomberg Philanthropies, to strengthen its sustainability and climate efforts toward improving the quality of life for residents.

After leading a robust community engagement process with over 6,000 residents and interdepartmental collaboration, the city published the Detroit Sustainability Action Agenda in 2019. The Agenda set forth four outcomes to guide the city's climate readiness vision: healthy, thriving people; affordable, quality homes; clean, connected communities; and equitable, green city.

"Through his work inside and outside of municipal government, Jack has a demonstrated track record of delivering tangible impacts for residents and helping cities reduce their greenhouse gas emissions through bold climate action. His passion, experience, and commitment to ensuring all communities benefit from the energy transition are a tremendous asset for Detroit and Mayor Duggan's climate agenda," said Adam Freed, Principal at Bloomberg Associates.

The city is working on the development of a long-term Climate Strategy to guide Detroit's resilience and mitigation efforts for years to come. The strategy's key priorities include increasing resiliency by centering the needs of vulnerable residents, building out EV charging infrastructure, city fleet electrification, transitioning to clean power, and efficient and electric buildings.

"We are excited to build on the good work the city has done towards our sustainability efforts. A Detroit Climate Strategy is being finalized to include action steps to increase resiliency and energy efficiency, in addition to building an infrastructure to support the transition to zero emissions vehicles. Akinlosotu's

Jack Akinlosotu

experienced leadership will bring us closer to achieve the goals of increasing the use of clean energy, improving building efficiency and protecting vulnerable residents," said Trisha Stein, who oversees Detroit's sustainability initiatives as the city's chief strategy officer.

Akinlosotu also has conducted several research projects including carbon sequestration, U.S. green finance program, and the evaluation of New York City Mayor's Office sustainability plan. He earned a Bachelor of Arts in Geography at University of Arizona. He also earned a Master of Professional Studies in Sustainable Urban Planning and at George Washington University.

He is looking forward to engaging residents, particularly vulnerable communities with low incomes, to collaboratively inform and build equitable measures toward sustainability developments in Detroit.

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Michigan's #1 oldest, largest and only bi-lingual Hispanic news. Multi-year winner of Jose Marti National Award for excellence in Editorial and Design. Published in Metro Detroit since 1988. Minority (Hispanic) and woman owned

El Central informs and celebrates Metro Detroit's Hispanic and Latino/a community and Southwest Detroit in particular and supports the professional development of local reporters and photographers who seek to enter the journalism profession.

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HISPANIC OWNED MEDIA CERTIFIED BY HACR

Youth Golf Clinic is Coming to Clark Park

By Juanita Zuniga

Detroit native Rico Razo loves golf. For him, it's not just about the friendly competition and being in lush and beautiful surroundings, it's building community, legacy, and learning some great life lessons. That is why his collective, Par Cinco, is creating a golf clinic in Clark Park in Southwest, Detroit.

Razo's history of playing golf goes way back to the age of 12, where he was taught to play by the male figures in his life like his father and stepfather. That experience allowed him to see the importance of stepping out of his comfort zone of playing soccer or baseball, the most common sports played in the Latino community.

As the Director of Bridging Neighborhoods for the City of Detroit, Razo's push to revitalize golf in Detroit stems from knowing there is not a lot of Black and Brown representation in the game. And with support from his close friends, Razo plans to change that narrative.

"We wanted to create a golf brand that kind of speaks to our identity and something that may be appealing to people who are Hispanic and look like us," Razo said.

Thus, the idea for a Clark Park golf clinic was created.

Razo created Par Cinco a few years ago after he and other Latino professionals began to get together to play golf and build community. The experience of Par Cinco led him to create a golf clinic specifically for Southwest Detroit youth to push themselves beyond their limits, and experience golf at leisure as a part of the community.

Golf isn't cheap and Razo understands that cost can hinder a person's commitment and ability to try the sport out altogether. He doesn't want a lack of finances to discourage anyone from playing golf.

"If you don't have the equipment, you're never gonna' play. And sometimes equipment can be costly. So we want to make sure that we try to break down that barrier by collecting golf equipment and putting sets together," Razo said.

This year Par Cinco will hold a golf outing to support the new golf clinic in Clark Park. They will be taking donations of all kinds, including clubs, uniforms, shoes, gloves, golf balls, and any and all other golf necessities. This will not only break that cost barrier but also ensure that golf in Southwest Detroit is here to stay.

"We want to make sure that we create that legacy and really continue to do it so that it becomes a sport that kids in the community know they can play and get involved in," Razo said.

In an effort to engage the whole community to help make the sport accessible to youth, supporters can take old, used, or new golf equipment that you or friends and family might have and donate it at this year's Par Cinco event. They will be accepting golf-related materials of all kinds.

The event, Par Cinco Golf Scramble, will take place at River Rouge Park Golf Course, located in Northwest Detroit at 11701 Burt Rd, on Saturday, May 6, 2023.

Sign-up is at 7:30 AM, with the Scramble starting at 9 AM.

For more information about the event, please visit

www.parcincogolf.com

Juanita Zuniga is a graduate of Kalamazoo College with a degree in Anthropology/Sociology and English. She was born and raised in Southwest Detroit and still resides there today. She is very passionate about her community and hopes to serve her community through writing. Juanita is a Latin history and music enthusiast in her spare time. She is also a Cancer sun, Libra moon, and Cancer Rising.

(L-R) Par Cinco Founders, back row, Jesus Hernandez, Antonio Mora-Mills, Francisco Hernandez, Luis Hernandez, and Rico Razo

MATRIX THEATRE'S SUMMER OF FUN!

There is something for everyone

Performers interested in participating in the Second Annual Solo Performance Festival taking place Saturday, June 24 at Matrix Theatre Company have until April 30 to submit examples of their work. All are welcome to audition/apply at no charge. In addition, registration is open for Matrix School of Theatre's popular Summer Camp, Let the "Play" Begin, August 21 – September 1. Tuition is $350 per student. Payment plans and scholarships are available based on need.

All performances and activities take place in and around Matrix Theatre Company located at 2730 Bagley Street, in the heart of Mexicantown. For details on the summer camp, and the Solo Performance Festival, go to www.matrixtheatre.org, or call 313 967 0599.

Solo Performance Festival –

"Dust off those forensic pieces and audition monologues, memorize those poems, work up that story about Nanna that gets shared at every family gathering. We want it all," said Marisa Dluge, Matrix Director of Productions. "If you have never performed before, we want you. If you are a seasoned performance artist, we want you. If you are somewhere in between, we want you, too."

Submissions can range from a completed performance to a concept that will be fully realized at the festival. Concept offerings may have an additional check-in with Matrix Staff. Although each artist is responsible for their individual performance, Matrix staff offers 1-to-1 performance coaching or outsider eyes for those whose work is selected for the festival. Go to the registration form for further details, or visit us at matrixtheatre.org/spf for further details.

Solo Performance Dates to Remember:

Submissions: April 1 – 30

In-Person Submissions: Saturday, May 6 11a – 4p

Solo Performance Festival – Saturday, June 24, 2023

Matrix School of Theatre Summer Camp –

Join us for a two-week, in-person, Creative Play Summer Camp experience where you are the originators of your own show!

- Transport to the places of your imagination
- Walk and talk like characters of your creation
- Perform your own words and stories

New this year, special sessions, and advanced performance technique for 13-17-year-olds.

At Matrix Summer Camp you get to do it all – WRITE, DIRECT, ACT!

Spend two weeks working in small groups to build original performance pieces. Each day campers are guided through creative writing and play exercises to ignite the imagination. Matrix teaching artists will then facilitate discussions identifying topics and issues campers feel are important to them and their community. Building on their input and ideas – playmaking begins.

Campers will develop characters and the setting, and then stage their production. The camp experience culminates in a final production of the youths' original performance that will be showcased the final day of each two-week camp session where family and friends are welcome.

Scholarships and payment plans are available by request and based on need. For further questions, contact Director of Education Amy Johnson at 313 967 0999, ext. 3, or email her at ajohnson@matrixtheatre.org. Visit us at www.matrixtheatre.org.

Summer Camp Specifics:

Ages 6 – 17 (Grades 1 – 12)

Monday – Friday

9a – 4p

Must provide brown bag lunch/snacks provided by Matrix

Cost: $350 for 520-week session

Monday, August 21 – September 1, 2023

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Monday – Friday, 9 am – 4 pm
Cost: $350 for two-week session
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Dulce de Leche Cake

Ingredients

For the cake:

- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 2 teaspoons baking powder
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 cup white sugar
- 3/4 cup unsalted butter, softened
- 1/3 cup dulce de leche
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 3 large eggs, at room temperature
- 3/4 cup whole milk

For the glaze:

- 1/4 cup dulce de leche
- 2 tablespoons whole milk

For the frosting:

- 1 cup unsalted butter, softened
- 3 cups powdered sugar, un-sifted
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 cup dulce de leche
- .25 fluid ounces dark rum
- 3/4 cup toasted hazelnuts, chopped

Directions

Ready In:
1 hour and 35 minutes

Step 1 -
Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F.

Step 2 -
Spray two 8-inch round cake pans with baking spray.

Step 3 -
In a medium bowl, whisk together the flour, the baking powder, and 1 teaspoon of the salt until combined.

Step 4 -
In the bowl of a stand mixer fitted with a paddle attachment, combine the white sugar and 3/4 cup of the butter and beat on medium-high speed until light and fluffy, about 2-3 minutes.

Step 5 -
Add 1/3 cup of the dulce de leche and the vanilla to the sugar mixture and beat until well combined, about 30 seconds, scraping down the sides of the bowl as needed.

Step 6 -
Adjust the mixer speed to low and add the eggs, one at a time, beating each egg until just blended, about 45 seconds per egg.

Step 7 -
Alternate adding the flour mixture and 3/4 cup of the milk, beginning and ending with the flour mixture, and beating after each addition on low speed until just combined.

Step 8 -
Divide the batter evenly between the prepared pans.

Step 9 -
Bake the cakes until the tops are golden and a toothpick inserted into the center of the cake comes out clean, about 25-30 minutes.

Step 10 -
Allow the cakes to cool in the pans for 10 minutes.

Step 11 -
Invert the cakes from the pans onto a wire cooling rack. Place the wire rack onto a baking sheet.

Step 12 -
Using a wooden skewer or fork, gently poke holes all over the flat sides of the cakes.

Step 13 -
In a small bowl, whisk together 1/4 cup of the dulce de leche and the remaining milk until smooth.

Step 14 -
Pour the glaze over the still-warm cakes and smooth the glaze with an offset spatula to coax the glaze into the poked holes.

Step 15 -
Allow the cakes to cool completely, about 30 minutes.

Step 16 -
In the bowl of a stand mixer fitted with a paddle attachment, beat the remaining butter on medium speed until smooth, about 1 minute.

Step 17 -
Adjust the mixer to low speed and gradually add the powdered sugar to the butter, beating until smooth, about 1 minute, scraping down the sides of the bowl as needed.

Step 18 -
Beat the remaining salt into the butter mixture.

Step 19 -
Adjust the mixer speed to medium and beat the butter mixture until fluffy, about 2 minutes.

Step 20 -
Adjust the mixer speed to low and beat the remaining dulce de leche and the rum into the butter mixture until just incorporated, about 45 seconds.

Step 21 -
Place 1 cake layer onto a plate with the flat side of the cake facing up.

Step 22 -
Spread 1 cup of the frosting evenly over the cake, all the way to the edge of the cake.

Step 23 -
Sprinkle the frosting with 1/4 cup of the hazelnuts.

Step 24 -
Place the second cake layer, rounded side up, onto the hazelnut layer.

Step 25 -
Spread the remaining frosting over the top and down the sides of the cake.

Step 26 -
Sprinkle the icing with the remaining hazelnuts.

Step 27 -
Serve.

Pesto Chicken Pasta

Ingredients

- 2 tablespoons butter
- 1 pound chicken breast, boneless and skinless, cut into 1-inch pieces
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 1/2 pound penne pasta
- 1 1/2 cups chicken broth
- 1 cup milk
- 3 ounces cream cheese, cubed
- 1/3 cup basil pesto
- 1/4 cup parmesan, grated
- 3 cups spinach
- 1/4 cup sun dried tomatoes, sliced
- black pepper, to taste
- crushed red pepper, to taste

Directions

Ready In:
25 minutes

Step 1 -
Melt the butter in a large, deep skillet over medium heat.

Step 2 -
Add the chicken and cook until lightly golden on the outside, about 3-4 minutes per side.

Step 3 -
Add the garlic to the skillet and cook until fragrant, about 1 minute.

Step 4 -
Add the uncooked pasta and the chicken broth to the skillet while stirring with a wooden spoon to scrape up any brown bits at the bottom.

Step 5 -
Cover the skillet and increase the heat, bringing the broth to a boil.

Step 6 -
Once boiling, stir the pasta and then bring the broth back down to a simmer.

Step 7 -
Allow the pasta to simmer, covered, until most of the broth has been absorbed, about 8 minutes.

Step 8 -
Add the milk, the cream cheese, and the pesto.

Step 9 -
Cook while stirring, over medium heat, until the cheese has fully melted.

Step 10 -
Add the parmesan, the spinach, and the sun-dried tomatoes.

Step 11 -
Stir until the spinach has wilted, about 1-2 minutes.

Step 12 -
Stir in the black pepper and the crushed red pepper.

Step 13 -
Serve immediately.

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ENTRETENIMIENTO

Jennifer Lopez saca garras y armas en 'The Mother', por proteger a su hija

¿Qué no haría madre por defender a su descendencia? Jennifer Lopez, quien hace poco lanzó un nuevo proyecto inspirado en sus grandes amores, está lista para mostrarle al mundo que una mujer se vuelve feroz e implacable cuando se trata de velar por la familia.

Este martes finalmente salió a la luz el tráiler de 'The Mother', thriller protagonizado por JLo y dirigido por Niki Caro, cuya trama gira en torno a una asesina que deja la clandestinidad para proteger a la hija que abandonó años atrás.

En los dos minutos que dura el avance de la cinta, que incluye en su reparto a Paul Raci, Joseph Fiennes y al mexicano Gael García Bernal, vemos a Jennifer Lopez en impresionante forma física y armada hasta los dientes. "La venganza es una madre", se lee tanto en el perfil de Instagram de la actriz como en el la compañía de streaming que lanzará el filme.

Maribel Guardia llora la muerte de su hijo Julián Figueroa

Lamentablemente, Maribel Guardia está de luto por el deceso del hijo que tuvo con Joan Sebastian, también fallecido. Al comunicar la muerte de su Julián Figueroa, la actriz costarricensemexicana detalló que ella se encontraba trabajando cuando ocurrió la tragedia, sin embargo, relató cómo fue que se le trató de brindar ayuda a su hijo, de solo 27 años, cuando lo hallaron inconsciente.

Tan pronto circuló la noticia de la muerte de Julián Figueroa, varios famosos comenzaron a darle su pésame a Maribel Guardia, haciendo uso de las redes sociales.

Julián Figueroa nació el 2 de mayo de 1995 y, como su padre, incursionó en el género de la música regional mexicana. Al igual que su madre, quien hoy pide respeto a su privacidad por esta pérdida, Julián también probó suerte en la actuación.

Desde el 2017, Figueroa estaba casado con la modelo y actriz Ime Garza-Tuñón. Producto de ese amor, Julián se convirtió en padre. Su hijo, José Julián Figueroa Garza, tiene 5 años.

Julián Figueroa murió en su hogar

A pesar de lo doloroso de esta noticia, Maribel Guardia hizo uso esta mañana de su cuenta de Instagram para dar detalles de la muerte de su hijo.

"Siento tener que comunicar la partida de mi amado hijo Julián Figueroa, quien desgraciadamente se nos adelantó en este plano", escribió en Instagram la famosa de 63 años, quien enseguida explicó cómo los paramédicos no pudieron hacer nada por él.

"Lo encontraron inconsciente esta noche en su cuarto, mientras yo estaba en el teatro. Llamaron al 911 y cuando llegó la ambulancia y la policía lo encontraron ya sin vida, sin rastro de violencia alguno", indicó puntual, junto a una foto en la que Julián aparece con su clásico sombrero ranchero.

Maribel Guardia agregó también la causa del deceso de Julián Figueroa:

"El parte médico indica que falleció por un Infarto agudo al miocardio y fibrilación ventricular".

La también cantante, que siempre ha tenido una relación de lo más cordial y cercana con los medios de comunicación, pidió el apoyo de los mismos, y también de todos aquellos que quieran brindarle el pésame, que entiendan que no se encuentra en condiciones de atenderlos.

"Ruego comprensión por el profundo dolor por [el] que estamos pasando, quisiera hablar con toda la gente que está intentando comunicarse, pero en verdad no tengo fuerza para hacerlo todavía", escribió Maribel. "Ruego respeto a todos por nuestra privacidad y el doloroso momento que pasamos", añadió.

Maribel Guardia también compartió información sobre cómo se le dará el último adiós a su hijo, señalando que, "sus honras fúnebres se realizaran en privado, al lado de las personas más cercanas y que más lo amaron".

Finalmente, agradeció por el cariño y muestras de solidaridad que está recibiendo, pero reiteró que, por ahora, no puede responderles directamente, pues está destrozada.

"Agradezco a todos los mensajes de apoyo y amor que me han estado enviando, pero en éste momento no tengo alma para contestar a nadie; espero poder hacerlo en otro momento. Gracias infinitas a todos por su comprensión", finalizó Maribel en el escrito que compartió en su perfil social, que viene firmado a nombre suyo y de su cónyuge, Marco Chacón, así como de su nuera y su nieto, Imelda Tuñón y Jose Julián Figueroa.

Please join the Detroit Riverfront Conservancy for an update on active projects along the West Riverfront.

Tuesday, April 18
5:30-6:45 PM
Register below to attend the zoom webinar: bit.ly/DRFCWRF

Por favor unase con el Detroit Riverfront Conservancy para que lo pondríamos al día acercas los proyectos activos del West Riverfront.

MARTES, 18 de Abril
5:30-6:45 PM
Regístrese aquí para unirse al Zoom: bit.ly/DRFCWRF

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Detroit Tigers 2023 Home Opener !!!

EL CENTRAL
HISPANIC NEWS
SPORTS

Sports Editor: Dan Graschuck/ EL CENTRAL

The Detroit Tigers hosted, the Boston Red Sox, for their Home Opener at Comerica Park, last Thursday.

During the ceremonial first pitch, Detroit Sports Legends Nick Lidström (current vice president of hockey operations for the Detroit Red Wings), Calvin Johnson (Detroit Lions) and Ben Wallace (Detroit Pistons), threw out the first pitches. Before the first pitches were thrown, all of them signal to the Tigers dugout for Miguel Cabrera, to come out and join them, as this was Miguel Cabrera's final home opening game.

The Tigers are back at Comerica Park this Friday, April 14th for a 6-game homestand against the San Francisco Giants and Cleveland Guardians, before going back on the road, Friday, April 21st against the Baltimore Orioles.

Photos by: Mike Alberts/ EL CENTRAL, unless otherwise noted
Photos below are highlights from the 2023 Tigers Home Opener

4 A10 Warthogs make ceremonial fly-over at Comerica Park, during the home opener before the game

Detroit Tiger Miguel Cabrera takes the field, for his last home opener at Comerica Park

Tigers Outfielder #8 Matt Vierling being introduced for the first time at Comerica Park

(Above) fans taking part of opening day celebrations before the game, (below) 44,650 fans (100% capacity) pack Comerica Park for opening day

(L-R) Detroit Tigers Miguel Cabrera, Nick Lidström (Detroit Red Wings), Calvin Johnson (Detroit Lions) and Ben Wallace (Detroit Pistons), throwing ceremonial first pitches. Photo provided by Detroit Tigers

2023 Detroit Tigers players and coaches line up during pre-game for opening day

Tigers C #34 Jake Rogers hits a home-run and Infielder #7 Jonathan Schoop scores on the same play

EL CENTRAL HISPANIC NEWS

Pateando la No. 5

SPORTS

CITY TREND CONTINUES

David Levine
EL CENTRAL

If something happens once, it may be an outlier. Twice might be a coincidence, but three or more times and it is a pattern. Detroit City FC now has established a pattern of 1-0 defeats that has to stop before they lose touch with the playoff spots in the Eastern Conference of the USL Championship. Following yet another 1-0 loss in the league, Trevor James and his team have to look closely at what is or isn't happening on the field.

The only time DCFC has shut out an opponent this season is the 2nd round US Open Cup game against Gold Star FC. That was a slender 1-0 win over a first year NISA team that lost their season opener 3-0, further illustrating the team's offensive struggles. That win in the Cup did set up another home match in the 3rd round. MLS opposition will again be coming to Keyworth. This time Minnesota United will provide the opposition. While the Loons won't be as despised as last year's MLS opponent from Columbus, they can be assured of a traditional Northern Guard welcome later this month.

Le Rouge has two more league games in which to sort out its inability to score goals and create more chances. Last Saturday's trip to Louisville produced very little. City created exactly one good chance in each half. Eleven minutes into the game former Ipswich Town academy product Ben Morris got in behind the defense and sprinted away. It looked promising for a young player trying to restart his career after a series of serious injuries. At the key moment, just after entering the penalty area, he struck the ball poorly with his instep and it dribbled harmlessly wide. In the second half, a City corner kick bounced his way and Morris struck the ball well over the bar from barely eight yards. That was the sum total of DCFC's threat to the Louisville goal.

At the other end of the field, Nate Steinwascher produced yet another magnificent display to keep the score close. Louisville City, the defending Eastern Conference Champions, had little trouble finding dangerous shots. As early as the fifth minute Brian Ownby broke in alone from midfield only to be thwarted by the only player on City to raise his game every night. At times, it seemed like Steinwacher could will Louisville's forwards to shoot either wide or straight at him.

In the second half, James reacted to Matt Lewis' worrying departure due to injury and Louisville's constant pressure by switching from a back three to a back four. Newcomers Jalen Robinson and O'Neil Fisher played the right side, while Stephen Carroll and Michael Bryant covered the left. As the game moved into the later stages, he modified the formation further to a 4-1-4-1 by removing a striker in Morris and replacing him with defensive midfielder Abdoulaye Diop. It was a blatant attempt to hold out for a 0-0 draw. It almost worked, too. However, Louisville, emboldened by James being disinterested in pursuing for a win, pushed on. The pressure eventually paid off when City failed to track the run of Wilson Harris on a corner kick. Dylan Mares had too much time to line up a perfect cross that Harris deflected by Steinwascher for the only goal in the 80th minute.

Continuing their run of three away league games in a row, DCFC will travel to Florida to meet Miami FC on Saturday night. The hosts have yet to win in 2023 with three draws and two losses in five games. They lost to their in-state rivals the Tampa Bay Rowdies 2-0 last weekend and will also be looking forward to MLS opposition in the Cup later this month. For Miami FC that mean an intra-city derby with Inter Miami. DCFC will have to hope the Miami players are already thinking about that game. Le Rouge cannot afford another 1-0 defeat.

After sticking with the same formation and virtually the same lineup for almost the entirety of 2022, James has started to show some flexibility with personnel and tactics. He has been making in-game changes, responding to what is happening on the field. Unfortunately, none of those changes has clicked yet. Three straight 1-0 losses indicate that the defense is good enough, but the misfiring attackers are killing the team. Apart from the three-goal explosion in El Paso, it's been goose eggs. Skage Simonsen, Yazeed Mathews, and Ben Morris have had trouble get shots on target and creating chances on their own. The midfield, especially in wide areas, hasn't provided enough quality service. Set pieces haven't been threatening. After the run of away games in April, there will be four home games in May. If they can't right the ship by the end of May, this could be a long, frustrating season for faithful at Keyworth.

Upcoming Events in Detroit

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Detroit City FC
Join us for the Inaugural DCFC City Youth
CASINO NIGHT
Private event at DCFC Fieldhouse
on Saturday, April 15th, 6:00pm
The event will transition into a private watch party for the match at 7PM EST vs The Miami FC
$75 each for individual.
Includes food, two drink vouchers, and a starting amount of casino chips
Craps, Roulette, Blackjack, and a Silent Auction
Watch Party at 7PM for Detroit City FC vs. The Miami FC
Spots are limited, reserve a spot today!

The inaugural casino night to support our Detroit City FC City Youth players is this weekend - Saturday, April 15!

Funds raised help support unique "pay what you can afford" model for soccer for Detroit youth. Enjoy casino games, a silent auction, a watch party for the men while they take on The Miami FC, a very special announcement, and help us make soccer more accessible for kids in the city of Detroit in the process.

Tickets are $75 and include food, two drink vouchers, a starting amount of casino chips - and access to the night's private watch party when the guys take on The Miami FC at 7 pm ET

For tickets, please visit: https://detroit-city-sporting-coalition.square.site/

Undisputed Middleweight World Champion and Michigan's own Claressa "GWOAT" Shields will make a homecoming return as she headlines the first boxing event in the history of Little Caesars Arena in Detroit on Saturday, June 3 taking on four-division champion Hanna Gabriels in a rematch that will stream live on DAZN in the U.S. and Canada.

EDITORIAL OPINION

"34 felony counts"

By Raoul Lowery Contreras

April 4, 2023, former President of the United States Donald J. Trump was indicted for violating New York criminal statutes regarding falsifying business records. 34 felony counts.

This, or anything like it, has ever occurred in the United States of America since it was founded under the Constitution in 1787. No President of the United States has ever been charged with a crime or, in this case, 34 separate crimes.

The crimes were listed individually in the formal indictment without great details; the simple barebones details were payments made to cover up sexual peccadilloes by Donald J. Trump. He was a candidate for President. The intent is outlined as keeping these sexual adventures of Trump out of public view before the November 2016 election thus influencing the election with illegal cash.

Many legal observers had predicted that the 34 count-indictment of Trump would be fleshed out so that the public could see clearly why the indictment was not a political weapon used only on Trump and done so out of a partisan "witch hunt." That didn't happen. What did happen was District Attorney Alvin Bragg offered a 12-page "Statement of Facts."

That statement fleshed out the "facts" and that document may be the death knell of Trump's decades of using the court system to batter and bully opponents and competitors.

Unfortunately, the first scheduled court appearance is not scheduled until December, nine months from now.

At the arraignment Trump never said a word other than to plead "Not Guilty." He couldn't, of course. The one thing we can count on is that he will run his mouth off outside the courtroom and on his ersatz social media that is flirting with bankruptcy and a hovering criminal investigation by authorities who concern themselves with ponzi schemes and fraudulent stock market activities.

So, it will be months before this criminal case against former President Trump works its way through the judicial system. The decades old television program - Law and Order - through which we all have relied on to teach us how the judicial system works, has taught us that criminal cases are not investigated or solved with convictions in an hour.

But…

This is just the first wave of criminal charges that are landing on the former President Trump. Atlanta's District Attorney's office appears to be following New York's charges with criminal charges based on Donald Trump's infamous "perfect" phone call to the Georgia Secretary of State suggesting that the Secretary look for and find just enough votes to carry the state despite the actual vote count showing that Trump lost the state of Georgia. Apparently that effort is illegal in Georgia.

A number of Trump-supporting public officials including one U.S. Senator and White House staffers disputed their subpoenas and lost. They were ordered to testify. With little or no "executive privilege" to keep them from testifying, any truth they relayed to the Georgia Grand Jury could hang over Trump's head like a guillotine blade.

Worse news for Trump, today, is that former President Trump has been charged with 34 felonies that are presaging far worse charges in the immediate future. Tha Atlanta charges will be more serious and will undoubtedly be a far less complicated case than the New York one which many are suggesting is a powder puff case.

Then, after Atlanta charges are made comes Mr. Smith, the Washington Special Prosecutor appointed by Attorney General Garland to prosecute Trump's involvement in the January 6 Insurrection for which hundreds of charged insurrectionists have been found guilty and jailed.

Will Trump be found guilty of any of these charges? We don't know, but one thing I know is that I have seen friends and acquaintances charged with crimes and corruption go to trial after being charged with(a) bribery, and.or (b) sexual peccadilloes and either were tried, found innocent, (a) former San Diego city councilman and state assemblyman Tom Hom and/or (b) pled guilty, former long-time congressman and San Diego Mayor Bob Filner. The current political sex scandal involving San Diego County Supervisor Nathan Fletcher and his pending resignation alerts us that money and/or sex have ended many political careers.

Donald Trump's coming legal battles dwarf the one started today. The new charges will come shortly and they will kill Trump's efforts to be renominated by Republicans. If they don't, Trump will be retired by November voters.

60 percent of Americans support today's indictment of Trump by District Attorney Alvin Bragg. How much higher will the approval rise with Trump being charged for his -- alleged -- involvement in the insurrection and for his attempts to steal the vote in Georgia?

Opinions in this column are not necessarily those of the Publisher or Editor

Do you have a contrary opinion? Write us at info@elcentralmedia.com

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Inspiring Quote of the Week !!!

"Don't be nervous. Work calmly, joyously, recklessly on whatever is in hand."

- Henry Miller

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How a Housing Counselor Can Help Prepare You for Homeownership

(StatePoint) Buying a home can be intimidating, whether this is your first time or you've been around the real estate block before. The good news? You don't have to go it alone. If you're looking for a trusted partner throughout the process, working with a housing counselor can help prepare you for homeownership.

If you're not sure what a housing counselor does or whether this service is right for you, consider these insights from Freddie Mac:

What is a Housing Counselor? Housing counselors are trained, independent professionals who are available to offer advice, listen and help you make informed decisions based on your financial situation and needs — often at little or no cost. Their job is to help you navigate the homebuying journey and ensure you're financially prepared for long-term, successful homeownership.

What Services Do They Provide? One of the primary roles of a housing counselor is to prepare you for homeownership through workshops and one-on-one counseling. The counselor will start by asking you questions about your income, credit and savings to help determine if you're ready to buy and how much you plan on spending. Similar to a conversation with a potential lender, the more organized and prepared you are, the more productive your conversation will be. Once they understand your current financial situation, they will:

• Provide guidance on down payment options and local down payment assistance programs.

• Help you understand the features and costs associated with the various types of mortgages available.

• Teach you important financial skills, such as planning your budget and building, maintaining and improving your credit.

• Advise you on the role of your real estate agent and lender.

It's important to know that housing counselors can be there for you beyond the homebuying process. For example, if you are facing financial difficulties and struggling to pay your mortgage down the line, a housing counselor can offer financial guidance and work with your lender to help you avoid foreclosure.

How Do You Find a Housing Counselor? Although finding a housing counselor can be as simple as running a search online or calling a hotline, it's important to carefully consider your options. Unfortunately, scam artists abound, preying on home buyers and struggling homeowners

alike. Here are three ways to find a legitimate housing counselor:

• Reach out to a HUD-certified housing counselor at one of Freddie Mac's Borrower Help Centers or Borrower Help Network for free assistance.

• Search for a HUD-certified housing counselor in your area on the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau's website.

• Call the national HOPE hotline at 888-995-HOPE or visit its website at 995HOPE.org. This hotline is free and available 24 hours a day.

For more information about preparing for and sustaining long-term homeownership, visit My Home by Freddie Mac.

Buying a home is one of the largest financial decisions you can make. Having a trusted expert in your corner means you don't have to go it alone.

Conozca los primeros signos de advertencia de la EPOC

(StatePoint) La enfermedad pulmonar obstructiva crónica (EPOC) es una afección pulmonar a largo plazo que dificulta la respiración. Es una de las principales causas de discapacidad y muerte en los Estados Unidos, donde más de 12.5 millones de personas han sido diagnosticadas con ella y millones más pueden tenerla sin siquiera saberlo. Si bien no hay cura, conocer los signos de advertencia temprana de la EPOC puede llevar a un tratamiento más temprano y puede evitar su progresión.

La American Lung Association, financiada con el apoyo de los Centros para el Control y la Prevención de Enfermedades, comparte las siguientes ideas para ayudar a los estadounidenses a reconocer las señales de advertencia de la EPOC y tomar medidas:

Señales de alerta temprana de la EPOC

No todas las personas tienen los mismos síntomas de la EPOC, pero algunos de los signos y síntomas de advertencia temprana más comunes pueden incluir dificultad para respirar, tos que puede producir moco o flema, opresión en el pecho, fatiga e infecciones pulmonares recurrentes. Las personas pueden pensar que estos síntomas se deben al envejecimiento, a fumar o a estar fuera de forma y volverse menos activos para evitar experimentarlos. Estos signos y síntomas no deben ignorarse. Hable con su proveedor de atención médica si experimenta alguno de estos síntomas y comente cualquier actividad que esté evitando debido a dificultades respiratorias.

Factores de riesgo y diagnóstico

Cualquier persona puede desarrollar EPOC, pero las personas de 40 años o más y las que fuman o solían fumar tienen un mayor riesgo. Fumar cigarrillos es la causa principal de EPOC; sin embargo, 1 de cada 4 personas que nunca fumaron cigarrillos. El humo de segunda mano, la contaminación del aire, la exposición al polvo, los humos y los productos químicos en el lugar de trabajo, y una afección genética llamada deficiencia de alfa-1 antitripsina (AATD) también son causas y factores de riesgo para la EPOC.

A menudo se diagnostica a las personas en etapas posteriores de la EPOC cuando la enfermedad ha avanzado porque retrasaron compartir sus primeros síntomas con su proveedor de atención médica. Todas las personas con factores de riesgo y quienes experimentan signos de advertencia temprana deben hablar con su proveedor de atención médica sobre cualquier problema respiratorio. Es especialmente importante que las mujeres lo hagan. Debido a que la EPOC ha sido históricamente considerada como una "enfermedad de hombres" o una "enfermedad de personas mayores", las mujeres a veces son diagnosticadas erróneamente o reciben un diagnóstico tardío. Pero, en general, más mujeres que hombres se ven afectadas por la EPOC y la tasa de mortalidad es mayor en las mujeres. Además, las mujeres tienden a desarrollar la enfermedad a una edad más temprana.

Para diagnosticar la EPOC, el proveedor de atención médica evaluará los síntomas, reunirá una historia clínica completa, realizará un examen de salud y llevará a cabo una prueba de función pulmonar llamada espirometría. Los resultados de la prueba de espirometría pueden determinar si usted tiene EPOC.

Cambios en el estilo de vida

Además del tratamiento, algunos cambios en el estilo de vida pueden marcar la diferencia, como lo saben de primera mano los pacientes que viven con EPOC. Después de ser diagnosticado con EPOC en etapa 2 a raíz de una infección por COVID-19, Bob F. se asoció con su médico y comenzó a controlar su respiración en casa y se inclinó hacia el ejercicio. Su arduo trabajo ha dado sus frutos, con su última prueba de función pulmonar mostrando que la enfermedad no ha avanzado y que está en mejor forma general que antes.

"La mayoría de los consejos que debe seguir no son diferentes de lo que los médicos nos dicen a todos. Coma bien, haga ejercicio, duerma, beba mucha agua, controle su peso y no fume. Si hace estas cosas, puede retrasar la progresión de su EPOC", dice Bob.

Pero, no debe esperar hasta tener un diagnóstico de EPOC para hacer estos cambios. Los cambios en el estilo de vida, como dejar de fumar, evitar el humo de segunda mano y reducir su exposición a la contaminación del aire, pueden reducir su riesgo de desarrollar EPOC. Si experimenta dificultades para respirar u otros síntomas respiratorios, no tarde en hablar sobre sus síntomas o factores de riesgo de EPOC con su proveedor de atención médica. Para obtener más información sobre la EPOC, visite Lung.org/COPD.

MHCC Economic Forum Highlights Key Messages about the Economic Impact of Latinos in Michigan

By Raquel Adam

On Wednesday, March 29, the Michigan Hispanic Chamber of Commerce (MHCC) hosted its 19th Economic Forum Breakfast sponsored by General Motors. The event took place at the historic Detroit Athletic Club in downtown Detroit. This year's forum brought together business leaders who were eager to learn why "Latinos are the Key to Unlocking Michigan's Potential".

Stacie de Armas, Senior Vice President Inclusive Intelligence & Initiatives at Nielsen was the Keynote Speaker. Ms. de Armas shared the most updated data about Latinos in Michigan and in the country. Her presentation was complemented by the participation of two local Latina business leaders, Joann Chavez, Senior Vice President, and Chief Legal Officer at DTE Energy and Isabel Medellin, Global Director, DEI & at Talent Acquisition at Steelcase. Both women joined Ms. de Armas for a dynamic panel discussion moderated by Jeff Wyatt, MHCC Treasurer & Finance Committee Chair as well as Senior Director at DWH Corp.

The more than 200 guests left the forum with a clear message: Latinos are the fastest growing demographic in the state and in the country; it is imperative that we provide young Latinos with the support needed to navigate the educational system and empower them to become the next generation of professionals and entrepreneurs. Ms. Medellin emphasized the importance of including processes and systemic decisions in our business environments that will ensure equal opportunities in the workplace for Latinos.

For more information regarding how the MHCC supports Hispanic businesses as well as upcoming events, go to www.mhcc.org

Stacie de Armas, SVP Inclusive Intelligence & Initiatives at Nielsen; Mark Moreno, Executive Director MHCC, Joann Chavez, Senior Vice President, and Chief Legal Officer at DTE Energy; Isabel Medellin, Global Director, DEI & at Talent Acquisition at Steelcase

(L-R) Jeff Wyatt, MHCC Treasurer & Finance Committee Chair as well as Senior Director at DWH; Joann Chavez, Senior Vice President, and Chief Legal Officer at DTE Energy; Isabel Medellin, Global Director, DEI & at Talent Acquisition at Steelcase, Stacie de Armas, SVP Inclusive Intelligence & Initiatives at Nielsen

MHCC Economic Forum Keynote Speaker Stacie de Armas, SVP Inclusive Intelligence & Initiatives at Nielsen

Oscar Camargo, MHCC Board Member, Global Purchasing Director, Chassis System General Motors – Event sponsor

MHCC Economic Forum Presentation by Stacie de Armas, SVP Inclusive Intelligence & Initiatives at Nielsen

MHCC Economic Forum Audience

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